

January 2024

National Visa for research stay

1. General information

Researchers are persons who have a doctoral degree or a suitable university degree that allows access to doctorate programs, have been selected by a research institute, and are allowed in the national territory of a member state in order to engage in research for which such a qualification is normally required.

Please note that your visa application must be made in person and will be accepted only if all required documents are submitted according to our regulations.

Each submitted document in original has to be accompanied by 1 copy. Printout of a PDF file is not considered original. Physical document with the original signatures of both parties and/or electronically signed document with certification are considered originals.

Documents in foreign languages have to be provided with a certified translation into German or English.

Your original documents (certificates, diplomas, etc.) and passport will be checked and returned to you.

Appointments can be booked online: www.tallinn.diplo.de/Terminvergabe

General information can be found here: www.make-it-in-germany.com

2. Fees

The fee for processing the visa application is 75 Euro. This amount has to be paid in cash or via credit card. This is a processing fee. Thus, a refund in case of withdrawal of the application or up-on denial is not possible.

3. Process

Processing visa usually takes some weeks. As soon as a decision has been made, the applicant is immediately contacted by the embassy. Applicants are kindly asked not to make any enquiries about the current status of their visa application.

4. Required documents

Please make sure that you provide a complete application form and all additional documents required. Incomplete applications will not be considered!

Please sort the documents according in the following order:

- 1 filled-in and signed visa application form:
<https://videx-national.diplo.de/videx/visum-erfassung/#/videx-langfristiger-aufenthalt>
- 1 recent passport photo (45x35 mm)
- your national passport (validity of which has to exceed at least 6 months; issued not earlier than 10 years ago), + 1 copy of **all pages with records**
- your Estonian residence permit or visa, held for at least 3 months at the time of application and for additional 2 months after your entry to Germany, + 1 copy
- your current resident registration card/document from Estonian authority
- Signed hosting agreement with a German research institute, +1 copy. Detailed information about the agreement here:
<https://www.bamf.de/DE/Themen/Forschung/AnerkennungForschungseinrichtungen/anererkennungforschungseinrichtungen-node.html>
The research institute commits itself in writing to cover your living and travel costs back to your country of origin, which otherwise have to be covered by public funds. This commitment applies for up to 6 months after the research position has ended. This clause is not applicable if your research position is primarily funded by public funds. *This is not required if the work of the research institute is primarily public funded or if there is a specific public interest.*
- Proof of qualification: Proof of doctoral degree or university degree that allows access to doctorate programs, + 1 copy
- Proof of sufficient financial means
Financing
To stay in Germany the applicant must have at their disposal at least **1.027,00 EUR monthly** if they are not entering into a contract of employment. Proof of these financial means can be provided through the admission agreement/relevant contract. If an employment agreement is planned, proof of the statutory minimum wage of **1.702,13 EUR monthly** must be provided. When submitting an application, proof of financial means must be provided for the entire duration of the stay.
In case of financing in the form of blocked account:
When applying for a visa, only the official confirmation including information on the amount paid in and the amount available per month will be accepted.
- travel health insurance covering the time period from your entry to Germany until the beginning of your research employment (minimum coverage: 30.000 euros)
- health insurance valid in Germany.

**In individual cases it may be necessary to provide additional documents.
This fact sheet is regularly updated but makes no claim to be complete.**